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REVIEWS.

PRELIMINARY REPORT OF THE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF KANSAS. *By G. C. Swallow, State Geologist.* Lawrence (Kansas), 1866. 8vo.

Besides the General Report by Professor Swallow, this preliminary summary of the results of the Survey of Eastern and Central Kansas, contains special reports upon the economical Geology of ten counties, by Maj. F. Hawn, with Reports upon the Climatology of the State, by Dr. Tiffin Sinks, and upon the "Sanitary Relations of the State," by Dr. C. A. Logan.

If the survey had merely established the presence of extensive deposits of Gypsum, Salt, or Coal, it would have thrice repaid its expense to the State. Incalculable wealth may result from a proper use of these discoveries, and the attractions they offer to the capital and labor of the east are very great. The soils of the numerous valleys, and the centre of the State overlying the bands of Triassic and Permian beds, with their "gypsum marls," are described as extremely rich. Even the Coal Measures, here unusually productive, are covered by the bluff formation which makes "the very best soils of the State." The purely scientific interest of the Report we have no space to mention; it is almost wholly devoted to Economical Geology, and in this respect partakes of the general want of completeness manifested in many of our State Reports. This is in no way attributable to their scientific authors, but to the very limited pecuniary aid given them by our legislators. This must necessarily render many of our State reports superficial, and greatly inferior in point of information and economical value to what they might be, were the work of the American Geologist properly supported, both by popular sympathy and proper pecuniary encouragement. With a few honorable exceptions, the State appropriations for Geological surveys, have barely enabled the Geologist to make even the most superficial reconnoissance. It is to be hoped, now that several States are again appropriating funds for Geological, Zoölogical and Botanical Surveys, the means afforded may be ample. The United States Coast Survey has surpassed all similar undertakings in Europe. Why may not the Geological explorations and the construction of Geological maps be carried on with the same energy and equal success, both in a scientific and pecuniary point of view?

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION FOR 1865. *Washington*, 1866. 8vo.

There are but few naturalists, especially those residing away from the scientific centres of our country, who have not been aided and en-